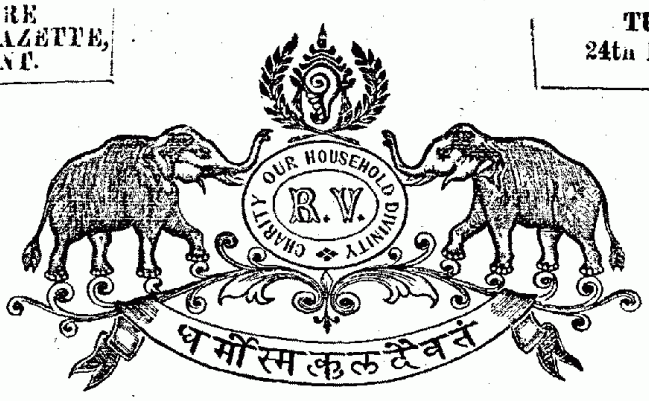
TRAVANCORE
GOVERNMENT GAZETTE,
SUPPLEMENT.

TUESDAY
24th March 1896.



Abstract Proceedings of the Travancore Legislative Council.

The Council met in the Dewan's room, Public Offices, at 2 P. M. on Tuesday the 17th March 1896. / 6th Panguny 1071.

PRESENT.

The Dewan ... ... *Presiding.*
M. R. Ry. K. Krishnaswamy Rao Avergal, Dewan Bahadur, F. M. U.
M. R. Ry. P. Thanu Pillai Avergal, M. A.
Mr. O. H. Bensley, B. A.
Mr. I. H. Prince.
M. R. Ry. R. Ramanatha Rao Avergal.
M. R. Ry. A. M. Muthunayagom Pillai Avergal, B. A. & B. L.

The Secretary announced that the Bill to provide for the management of Prisons passed by the Council on the 2nd November 1895, received the Royal assent on the 9th Idem and had become law as Regulation I of 1071 with effect from the 1st Chittray next. He then placed the following papers on the table copies of which had been previously furnished to the members.

1. Second Report of the Select Committee on the Game Preservation Bill.
2. Petition from Thalakudi Peramanayagom Namasivayam and others of Nanjinad on the Irrigation Bill.
3. Petition from Adichan Narayanan and others of Pathanapuram on the Game Preservation Bill.
4. Amendment to the Public Gambling Bill to be proposed by Mr. Thanu Pillai.
5. A Bill to amend the Forest Regulation (II of 1068.)
6. General Clauses Bill.
7. Petition on the Irrigation Bill by Ananda Rama Iyer Krishna Iyer of Munkombu.

THE JUDICIAL OFFICERS BILL.

Mr. Muthunayagom Pillai: I beg to move that the Judicial Officers Bill, as it now stands amended, be passed by the Council and that it come into operation from the date of passing thereof.

The motion was put and agreed to.

THE PUBLIC GAMBLING BILL.

SECTIONS 1 AND 2.

Mr. Thanu Pillai moved the following amendment:—

"Omit section 2—making corresponding alterations in the numbering of the other sections—and insert the following as sub-sections in section 1:—

This section, section 9, para 1 of section 10 and section 13 of this Regulation shall extend to the whole of Travancore and come into force on the

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Our Government may extend by notification in the Gazette, all or any of the remaining sections of this Regulation to any town or part of a town and may define for the purposes of this Regulation the limits of such town or part of a town, and may, from time to time, cancel or modify any such notification or alter the limits so defined."

The amendment, it will be observed, involves no material change. The object is simply to make the provisions technically complete.

Seconded by Mr. Bensley.

Carried.

Mr. Bensley: I beg to move that the Bill, as now amended, be passed into law and that it come into force on the 1st Vaikasy 1071.

The motion was put and agreed to.

THE GAME PRESERVATION BILL.

Mr. Bensley said:—In sending back the Bill to the Select Committee for reconsideration, the Council, it will be remembered, placed an important suggestion in their hands as to whether the object aimed at by the Bill could not be as effectively secured by rules framed under sections 21 and 22 of the Forest Regulation (II of 1068). The Committee have given the question their most anxious consideration. They welcomed it, in fact, and would have most gladly adopted it if it appeared feasible and expedient. They feared serious practical difficulties and have come to the unanimous conclusion that mere rules under the said Regulation cannot in all respects take the place of the Bill and that, having regard to the limited scope of its immediate operation, there need be no apprehension of any hardship in its working.

The purposes intended are, no doubt, embraced within the purview of the Forest Regulation (sections 21 and 22). But the question, the vital question, is, whether there is proper agency available without which the rules must prove worse than a dead letter. Here I will read out of the report—"We entertain serious doubts as to whether with the agency available viz. the Forest and Police Departments, full effect can be given to these rules in the area covered by the Bill. The area of the tract is 1,500 square miles. The strength of the Police within that area is not more than 20, and there is, we believe, only a single forest depôt in the tract, and the stations are on the main roads and far away from where protection under the Bill is necessary. One of the chief provisions of our Bill is to secure by law the assistance of owners or managers of property and it is chiefly by this means that we expected to effectually secure practical results. Such powers are not and cannot be conferred under the Forest Rules."

I need hardly repeat to the Council that I consider it an important duty of Government to protect the beautiful and splendid fauna of the country from indiscriminate slaughter. With these remarks I beg to move that the Bill as originally revised by the Select Committee be taken into consideration.

Seconded by Mr. Prince.

Carried.

Mr. Krishnaswamy Rao: With the permission of the President I beg to move one or two amendments.

In section 2, I would omit the words 'jungle-fowl' and 'hares'. From the petitions received I am inclined to think that their inclusion in the definition is likely to work hardship to the poor Kanikars and others who live mostly on such game.

Seconded by Mr. Muthunayagom Pillai.

The motion was put to the Council and lost.

Mr. Krishnaswamy Rao: The next amendment I have to move is this—"Substitute one-fourth for one-eighth in the Proviso to section 3." Mr. Maltby who is competent to speak on the subject suggested *half* a mile as the limit which should be fixed for the exercise of the right of self-defence. I think one-eighth of a mile is too little. I consider one-fourth of a mile to be a reasonable limit.

Seconded by Mr. Prince.

Carried.

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